

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Amend paragraphs 0015 and 0030 as follows:

[0015] Referring now to FIGS. 2-5, core 130 may comprise a plurality of plate pairs 132 stacked with one another along a stacking axis, such as stacking axis 134 extending through inlet and outlet plena 124, 126 of NFHX 120. Each plate pair generally comprises a heat-exchanger plate 136 and a spacer plate 138. Although FIG. 3 shows only one plate pair 132, it is to be understood that core 130 will typically contain many of such plate pairs, e.g., 50 pairs or more, stacked in registration with one another to form the various below-described passageways therein. When properly stacked, the plurality of plate pairs 132 form an ~~impervious heat transfer layer 139 that is impervious to a working fluid (not shown) contained within core 130.~~ The plurality of plate pairs 132 may define three inlet manifolds 140 extending the length of core 130, four outlet manifolds 142 extending the length of the core and a plurality of interconnecting channels 144 fluidly communicating with at least one inlet manifold at one end and at least one outlet manifold at the opposite end. One skilled in the art will recognize that the particular number of inlet and outlet manifolds shown is merely illustrative. Any number of inlet and outlet manifolds may be provided. In addition, one skilled in the art will understand that the terms "inlet" and "outlet" as used herein, and in the claims appended hereto, are interchangeable with one another. For example, what is designated as an inlet manifold for flow in one direction will become an outlet manifold for flow in the opposite direction.

[0030] During use, the working fluid flows through NFHX 120 shown in FIGS. 3-5 as follows. First, the working fluid flows through inlet port 178 and into inlet plenum channel 184, where it is distributed through inlet apertures 180 in inlet wall plate 174 to inlet manifolds 140. As the working fluid flows along each inlet manifold 140, portions of the working fluid flow into the various interconnecting channels 144 distributed along the length of core 130. As the working fluid flows through each interconnecting channel 144, it first flows into the space defined by interconnecting portion 166 of combination aperture 158 of spacer plate 138 between adjacent heat-exchanger plates 136, where it is split into two flow paths by flow partition 168. The working fluid then flows to a corresponding one of first and second overlap portions 162,164 of combination aperture 158, where it then flows into a corresponding outlet manifold 142 via overlap portion 152 of combination aperture 148 of heat-exchanger plate 136. Once the working

fluid enters one of outlet manifolds 142, it then flows through a corresponding one of outlet apertures 192 in outlet wall plate 186, into outlet plenum channel 198 and through outlet port 194. As one skilled in the art will recognize, the direction of flow through NFHX 120 may be reversed, whereupon the passageways and openings presently designated as "inlet" become outlet passageways and openings and the passageways and openings presently designated as "outlet" become inlet passageways and openings.

Delete paragraph 0015.1 presented in the Response to the First Office Action After RCE, dated October 29, 2003.

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